

No.	Date	Locations in Girnar WLS	Observer	No. of individuals	Remarks
1	23 March 2014	Fatel Khodiyar	Prasad Ganpule	1	female
2	22 December 2015	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Naman Doshi	2	male & female
3	26 December 2015	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Second Author	1	male
4	29 December 2015	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Naman Doshi	1	male
5	02 January 2016	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Naman Doshi	2	male & female
6	15 January 2016	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Second Author	1	male
7	20 January 2016	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Second Author	1	female
8	24 January 2016	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Ankit Shukla	1	female
9	24 January 2016	Jatashankar Temple	Viral Joshi	1	female
10	27 January 2016	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Second Author	1	male
11	10 February 2016	Bordevi Temple	First Author	2	male
12	11 February 2016	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Second Author	1	female
13	23 February 2016	Kashmiri bapu Ashram	Second Author	2	male & female
14	28 February 2016	Velnath	Naman Doshi	1	male
15	03 March 2016	Asaiba Pir	First Author	1	male
16	11 December 2016	Fatel Khodiyar	First Author	1	male

A few of the sightings are probably of the same individuals, as they were seen in a small area for a few weeks. During our surveys in the foothills of Girnar, the Blue-capped Rock Thrush was always seen in forested areas, near streams or waterholes. It has been recorded in six different locations in Girnar WLS. It is seen in small numbers – with either single individuals or pairs noted. Our observations indicate that the Blue-capped Rock Thrush is seen from early December till late March. Hence, it can be said that the Blue-capped Rock Thrush is an uncommon, but regular, winter visitor to the Girnar WLS.

Acknowledgments

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References

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Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher from Surat, South Gujarat

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I am a teacher at the Industrial Training Institute, Majura Gate, Surat, which is situated besides one of the busiest roads in the middle of the city. On 5 November 2016, when I was teaching, some students informed me that an unknown bird had flown into the classroom through the window, and crashed into the fan. Immediately, I went to rescue the bird, but it was dead. As per information received from the students, a Crow (*Corvus* sp.) was attacking the bird and hence it rushed in the classroom. I took some photos and later, it was identified as an Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher (*Ceyx erithaca*) by my friends.

This sighting is the fourth of the species for Gujarat. Earlier, an Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher was recorded at Ahmedabad in June 2013, and at Vansada National Park, in Dang, on 14 June 2014 (Jat 2015). It was seen again in Dang in June 2016 (Vishal Mistri & M. U. Jat, *in print*). All the three previous records were in the monsoon season, while this individual was found in early winter. Hence, it is a significant record. It is possible that the species moves through Gujarat in June, as it disperses northwards during its breeding season in the monsoon and later, returns southwards to its known range in the Western Ghats (Grimmett *et al.* 2011). This sighting of a forest dwelling species like the Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher from the middle of a large city like Surat is very surprising.

References

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- Jat, M. U. 2015. A record of Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher *Ceyx erithaca* from Vansda National Park, Gujarat. *Indian BIRDS* 10 (6): 159-160 □